HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 224

By Holt

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of former Weakley County mayor Houston Patrick of Martin.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of former Weakly County mayor Houston Patrick; and

WHEREAS, a veteran of the United States Army, Mr. Patrick was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Houston Patrick earned his associate degree in 1954 from East Central Community College in Decatur, Mississippi, where he served as treasurer of the agriculture club, associate editor of advertising for the Wo-He-Lo yearbook, treasurer of the student body association, and a member of the Theta Xi chapter of the international honor society, Phi Theta Kappa; in 2007, he was honored as the school's Alumnus of the Year; and

WHEREAS, he earned his bachelor's degree from Mississippi State University, where he was inducted into the Alpha Zeta scholastic agriculture fraternity and Blue Key Honor Fraternity and was elected president of the Agronomy Club; he earned his master's degree in education from the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Patrick served with acumen and alacrity as the Weakley County
Register of Deeds for twenty-four years, in which position he earned the respect of his peers
and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; he served as chaplain of the
Tennessee Register's Association for twelve years, and in 2000, he served as president of the
association; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, Houston Patrick was elected as Weakley County mayor, serving until his retirement in 2014; during his time in office, he placed a heavy emphasis on partnerships with neighboring counties, forming a Ken-Tenn Regional Alliance, encompassing

six counties in northwest Tennessee and southwest Kentucky, which garnered recognition by the United States Department of Agriculture; and

WHEREAS, he was also diligent in other cooperative efforts, including working with the Everett-Stewart Regional Airport of Union City on its runway expansion, partnering with regional officials on the port at Cates Landing in Lake County, and being involved in the beginning of construction for I-69 in Obion County; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Patrick was active in his community, having been a past president of the Rotary Club, a recipient of the Paul Harris Fellow Rotarian Award, and the first chairman of the United Way for Weakley County; he was named Weakley Countian of the Year during the 2012 Weakley County Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet; and

WHEREAS, Houston Patrick was an active and devout member of Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church, which he served faithfully for forty-four years as pastor; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Patrick was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, left to cherish his memory are his loving wife of fifty-seven years, Maxine; his son, Joseph; his daughter-in-law, Jennifer; and a host of family and friends; and

WHEREAS, Houston Patrick leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the service and the memory of Houston Patrick, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to his community and to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Patrick.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.